

A photograph of a person climbing a steep, textured rock wall. The climber is wearing a white helmet, sunglasses, a dark long-sleeved shirt, and light-colored shorts. They are secured by a purple rope that runs diagonally across the frame. The background is a clear blue sky.

# The Arizona Mountaineer

May 2011

**AMC Member Climbing at Pinnacle Peak's  
Cactus Flower Wall for the  
AMC's 47th Birthday Celebration**

*Photo By Susan Harnage*

# The Arizona Mountaineering Club

Meetings: The member meeting location is:

Granite Reef Senior Center  
1700 North Granite Reef Road  
Scottsdale, Arizona 85257

The meeting time is 7:00 to 9:00 PM.

Board Meetings: Board meetings are open to all members and are held two Mondays prior to the Club meeting.

Dues: Dues cover January through December. A single membership is \$30.00 per year: \$35.00 for a family. Those joining after June 30 pay \$15 or \$18. Members joining after October 31 who pay for a full year will have dues credited through the end of the following year. Dues must be sent to:

AMC Membership Committee  
6519 W. Aire Libre Ave.  
Glendale, AZ 85306

Schools: The AMC conducts several rock climbing, mountaineering and other outdoor skills schools each year. Browse the AMC website for information on schedules and classes.

For More Information:

Website:

[www.amcaz.org](http://www.amcaz.org)

Mail:

Arizona Mountaineering Club  
4340 E. Indian School Rd., Ste 21-164  
Phoenix, AZ 85018

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Bill Fallon	602-996-9790
Vice-President	John Gray	480-363-3248
Secretary	Kim McClintic	480-213-2629
Treasurer	Curtis Stone	602-370-0786
Director-2	Eric Evans	602-218-3060
Director-2	Steve Crane	480-812-5447
Director-1	Gretchen Hawkins	520-907-2916
Director-1	Bruce McHenry	602-952-1379
Director-1	Jutta Ulrich	602-234-3579

## COMMITTEES

Archivist	Jef Sloat	602-316-1899
Classification	Nancy Birdwell	602-770-8326
Elections	John Keedy	623-412-1452
Equip. Rental	Bruce McHenry	602-952-1379
Email	Curtis Stone	602-370-0786
Land Advocacy	Erik Filsinger	480-314-1089
Co-Chair	John Keedy	623-412-1452
Librarian	David McClintic	602-885-5194
Membership	Rogil Schroeter	623-512-8465
Mountaineering	Bruce McHenry	602-952-1379
Newsletter	Robert England	480-688-5412
Outings	Frank Vers	480-947-9435
Programs	Kim McClintic	480-213-2629
Technology	Steve Crane	480-812-5447
Trng & Schools	Bill Fallon	602-996-9790
ORC	Bill Fallon	602-996-9790
Anchors	Justin York	480-229-8660
Lead	Mike Knarzer	602-751-1701

**The AMC Land Advocacy Committee:** The Committee works by itself and with the national Access Fund to maintain public access to climbing areas. If you know of areas that are threatened with closures or climbing restrictions, please notify the Land Advocacy representative Erik Filsinger, 480-314-1089.

**The Access Fund:** This is a national, non-profit, climber's organization that works to maintain access to climbing areas nationwide. Climbers can join The Access Fund by mailing an annual, tax-deductible donation of \$35 or more to: The Access Fund, P.O. Box 17010, Boulder, CO 80308, or calling 888-8MEMBER or giving it to the AMC Club Treasurer to be sent to The Access Fund in your name. A donation of \$35 or more is needed to receive Vertical Times, The Access Fund newsletter. One can also join electronically at [https:// www.accessfund.org/join](https://www.accessfund.org/join)

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## Hot Stuff !!!

**Thanks to this month's article contributors!!**

## Newsletter

The Arizona Mountaineer is published monthly by the AMC. Members are encouraged to submit articles and photos about their climbing- or mountaineering-related activities. Submit items for publication (subject to approval) to: AMC Editor, 2267 W Periwinkle Way, Chandler, AZ 85248 or through email to robert\_england2@yahoo.com. Digital photos should preferably be in JPG format and 300 dpi. Articles can be in any standard word processing format. For more info call or write the editor at (480)-688-5412, robert\_england2@yahoo.com.

Advertising in the Arizona Mountaineer is accepted, subject to approval, at the following rates. Personal ads are free to members. Business ads are \$5.00 for a business card, \$10.00 for half page, \$20.00 for full page, and \$25.00 for inserts.

## Library

You must be an AMC member; i. e., your name must be on the most current membership list. The circulation period is one month. Materials are due at the next general club meeting. The overdue fine is \$2 per title per month. Please contact the librarian if unable to return your books and tapes. The circulation limit is three titles per person. One of these may be a videotape, for which a \$50 deposit is required. Each guidebook requires a \$25 deposit.

**JUNE NL Deadline: 18 MAY**

## May Birthdays

Ernie Babich 1, Susan Hatfield 1, Ken Cloud 4, Justin 4, Rick Craycraft 6, Greg Crook 8, Angela Fallon 8, Scott Mitchell 8, Steve Sharp 9, John Williams 9, Kim Huenecke 12, Chris Curtis 15, Isaac Martinez 15, Eric Dimmery 16, Chuck Flint 16, Thomas Clarkin 19, Ambika Balasubramaniyan 20, Robert Kessenich 20, Kari Bynum 21, Randy Ryan 22, Jutta Ulrich 22, Olivia 23, Jacqui MacConnell 24, Curtis Stone 24, Kate Hennen 25, Sam Johnson 25, Gary Rector 26, Mike Koehlmoos 27, Terri VanHerpen 27, John Farrell 28, Mark Lucas 30, Patti Waldrup 31, Tim McCabe 31

# Discount Directory

These merchants offer a discount to AMC members:

- **Arizona Hiking Shack** - 11645 N. Cave Creek Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85020, (602) 944-7723. Show your AMC membership card and get a 10% discount.
- **AZ on the Rocks Gym** - 16447 N. 91st St., Scottsdale, AZ 85260. 480-502-9777. Gym membership 10% off for AMC members.
- **Phoenix Rock Gym** - 1353 E. University, Tempe, AZ 85281. 480-921-8322. 10% off membership to AMC members.
- **AZ Cliffhanger** - at the Phoenix Rock Gym. 480-642-9507. 10% off membership to AMC members.
- **Climbmax Gym** - 1330 W Auto Dr, Suite 112, Tempe, AZ 85284 - 480-626-7755. 10% off membership, Grand Opening 15% off through 4/30.
- **APE Index Rock Climbing Gym** - 9700 N. 91st Ave Suite 118 Peoria 85345 Phone 623-242-9164 10% discount for Day Pass and Membership. Show AMC Membership card.

# Rental Equipment

<u>EQUIPMENT</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>\$Dep</u>	<u>1-3day</u>	<u>4-7day</u>
MSR Alpine snowshoes	5	32	10	16
Ice Crampons	5	26	8	13
Ice axes (70 cm)	6	16	5	8
Ice axes (90 cm)	5	14	5	7
Snow shovel	1	8	3	4
Avalanche Kit (probe & shovel)	2	10	5	8
Curved Ice Tools (pair)	2	40	20	35

Call Bruce McHenry at (602) 952-1379 for information on how to rent AMC equipment.

# Treasurer's Report

## Arizona Mountaineering Club Income Statement Period Ended March 31, 2011

### INCOME

Dues .....	3,630.00
Interest.....	28.39
Mountaineering Schools .....	400.00
Rental Equipment.....	158.00
Anchors School.....	1080.00
ORC School .....	2,975.00
Lead School .....	225.00
Training Other.....	475.00
<u>Other .....</u>	<u>23.00</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME .....</b>	<b>8,994.39</b>

### EXPENSES

Admin .....	1,280.70
Insurance.....	2580.00
Newsletter .....	228.25
Outings.....	150.00
Programs Monthly Meeting .....	234.61
<u>Training.....</u>	<u>5,069.52</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES .....</b>	<b>8,543.08</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL.....</b>	<b>(548.69)</b>

### ACCOUNT BALANCES

Checking .....	11,562.31
CD Account .....	15,000.00
<b>TOTAL CASH ASSETS .....</b>	<b>26,562.31</b>
<u>AMC Outing Gear.....</u>	<u>3,467.43</u>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL .....</b>	<b>30,029.74</b>

# AMC Board Minutes - March 14, 2011

1. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM. In attendance: Bill Fallon, John Gray, Curtis Stone, Kim McClintic, Eric Evans, Steven Crane, Bruce McHenry, Gretchen Hawkins, Jutta Ulrich, and Erik Filsinger (Land Advocacy Chair).
2. The minutes from last month's meeting were approved.
3. Treasurer's report was approved. See Treasurer's report in this month's newsletter. PayPal expenses will now be listed as a specific expense item, as opposed to being grouped with other expenditures.
4. Committee Reports:
  - a. Membership: Membership is 228, which is similar to last year at this time.
  - b. Programs:
    - i. April's member meeting will feature a personal appearance by Mike Libeck who will be presenting a solo trip to Afghanistan and a trip to Guyana.
    - ii. May's member meeting, 5/23 will feature Aaron Locander and Todd Martin presenting on previously unexplored side canyons in the Grand Canyon and discussion of a 30 day small craft rafting trip down the Colorado.
    - iii. June's member meeting will be the annual Gear Swap and Climb at PRG on June 27th.
    - iv. There will be no member meeting in July.
    - v. As always, member input on programs is appreciated. Contact Kim McClintic if you have a speaker in mind or a topic you'd like to see presented.
  - c. Outings and Activities: April 12-17: Anchors School. Adopt-a-Crag and climb in the McDowells was cancelled due to rain. At this time there is no reschedule date. Potentially, the trail work will now take place on a smaller scale and on a week day. Erik Filsinger will make the announcement once a date is determined.
  - d. Land Advocacy:
    - i. McDowell's: Adopt-a-crag was cancelled. AMC maintains a supportive relationship with MSC and City of Scottsdale staff to support them and climbing access in the preserve.
    - ii. QCC: Bruce McHenry has been elected to the QCC board.
    - iii. Rock Nob, climbing area in the north McDowell's is county land. The county is looking to adopt a climbing policy for that area.
  - e. Training and Schools:
    - i. Transition: Eric Evans will be taking over as the lead Anchors instructor in the Fall. The class will continue to operate on a team teaching structure. Those with the experience and desire may contact Bill Fallon about the teaching opportunity.
    - ii. New Lead School Instructor: Mike Knarzer has expressed the desire to decrease his role as Lead school instructor. He may continue in a lesser capacity. Those with the experience and desire may contact Bill Fallon about this position.

## AMC Board Minutes - March 14, 2011 (cont)

- f. Website and Meetup.com: The technology committee is requesting volunteers to assist in updating the website and monitoring the meet.up site. If you are interested, please contact Curtis Stone or Steven Crane.
5. Old Business:
  - a. Newsletter replacement for Robert England. A committee has been formed of those who are interested in helping with the newsletter. Jutta Ulrich will be coordinating the tasks for the group. Robert England will stay on and work with the committee. The current list of volunteers includes: Cheryl Beaver, Jutta Ulrich, and David McClintic.
  - b. Club Documents. John Gray has completed a review of past newsletters in order to discover changes in policy and by-laws. Gretchen Hawkins, Kim McClintic and John Gray will complete the process of reconciling these changes with the Club Docs, as well formatting the Club Docs.
  - c. Bill Fallon has completed the membership data base access proposal.
  - d. Advanced Learning Opportunities (aka “Advanced Climbing Seminars”). John Gray will pursue creating additional learning opportunities for club members. If you have suggestions or would like to be part of this process, contact John Gray.

# Outdoor Rock Climbing School - Spring 2011

The Spring Outdoor Rock Climbing School in March was another great success, thanks to a wonderful group of students and instructors. The weather, unpredictable in March and even more so this year, turned out to be perfect. Everyone was very patient with the (seemingly endless) hours of lecture on the first Tuesday and Thursday. Saturday was a work day at the Sven Slab area in the McDowells, with lots of “stations” to get through, including the Big Rappel with Rogil. Sunday at Magma Garden in Queen Creek was a really fun day with lots of climbs for students and instructors. Back to work at Phoenix Rock Gym the following Tuesday and Thursday for self rescue; Paul Dief and his staff are very gracious, dedicating the Lead Cave to AMC for those evenings. Saturday was grad climb day with a total of six outings – the Hand (Dave McClintic), Spiderwalk (Jason Garvan), Hanging Gardens (Eric Evans), Sven Tower III (Bruce McHenry), the Monk (Rogil), and Rosetta Stone (Bill Fallon) – followed by the traditional Grad Party graciously hosted by Ron Auerbach.

Congratulations to all the new ORC grads and thanks for making this another really fun school. And thanks for the FOOD! This class absolutely set the bar for all future classes – for example, fried chicken at Sven Slab on Saturday, barbecued ribs on Sunday at Magma Garden, and Breyer’s Ice Cream at Rosetta Stone – unbelievable! And thanks to all the great instructors and outing leaders for making this school happen again.

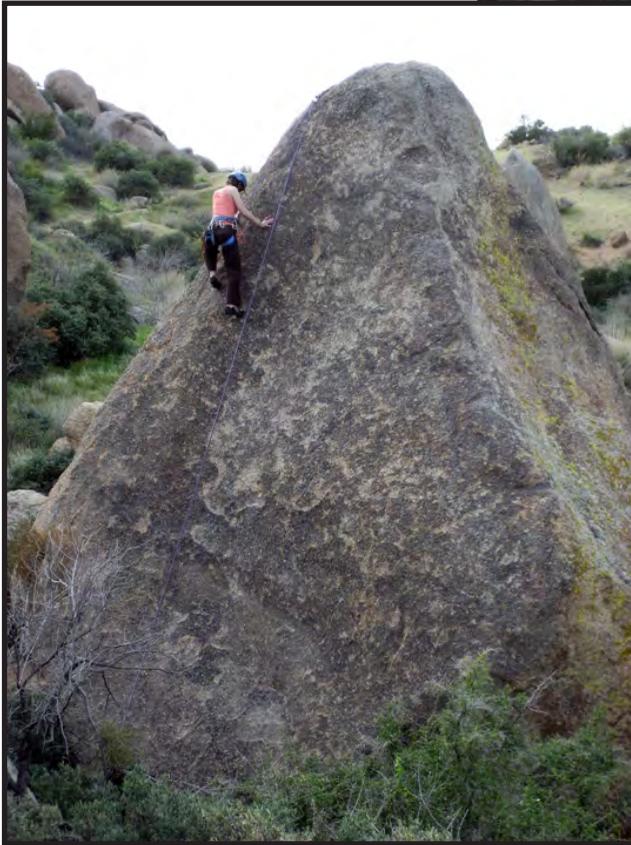
Bill Fallon



# ORC School Pictures



# ORC School Pictures



# AMC's 47th Birthday Celebration

AMC celebrated its 47th Birthday on March 5th at Pinnacle Peak in the Cactus Flower climbing area. Thirty participants enjoyed 20 routes ranging from 5.6 to 5.10. This is an ideal area to practice crack climbing techniques. Erik Filsinger coordinated the event with the assistance of several other AMC members. After a full day of climbing the group moved to Greasewood Flats to continue the celebration. Thanks to all that were able to help and celebrate with us that day.

Susan Harnage



# Looking Up for Alpine Rock - The Fab 7 in SW CO

(From Erik Filsinger - originally published in AMC Newsletter in December 2004)

For those of you who would like a larger scale and challenge to your climbing efforts than afforded by Arizona sling shot rock set-ups, you might consider putting your climbing shoes into your pack, grabbing your rack, lacing up your boots, and heading up into the hills a little higher.

Alpine rock climbing usually means ascending a mountain via a technical route using rock climbing gear, and maybe a little ice and snow techniques as well. Chances are that you'll encounter Adventure at its purest and find yourself dealing with odd things for a central AZ climber: uncertainty, route finding, loose rock, weather, and...commitment.

Here is a list of pretty easily accessible alpine rock climbs in Southwestern Colorado. I've done them all and can highly recommend each (and please forget the CO 14'ers -- they're boring compared to these -- and I've done all of them too.)

For guidebooks use Robert Rosebrough's *The San Juan Mountains*, and then check out the two references therein to my father's climbs and finds back in the early 50's.

**North Buttress on Sneffels (14,150).** Now this is a “classic.” Donna Gaudet and I did in a whole bunch of pitches and a long, long day. Sweet. Depending on line from 5.5 to 5.8. You will be committed on this route! Backpack in from a trailhead out of Ridgeway. Three hours puts you into Blaine Basin, heaven on earth. Then a mile of maybe meadow and increasingly steep snow. It's the prominent rock left of the Snake Couloir.



North Buttress on Sneffels

**Lizard Head (13,113 ft), South Dihedral** -- Located above Lizard Head Pass on the way to Telluride, this 5.8 alpine rock spire is an old volcanic plug. Dan Bolin and I did it in 3 roped pitches with some scrambling in between. Very loose. Some say it is the toughest summit to reach in CO. About a 3 hour approach mainly on a good trail.

## Looking Up for Alpine Rock (cont)

**Dallas Peak (13,809), Regular route** -- The hardest of the top 100 peaks in CO. Approach from Telluride and try to find the route. A party from the Colorado Mountain Club couldn't the day Susan and I climbed it in a hail storm. I was told by the CMC leader that my 4 pitch route probably went at 5.8. A similar rating was given by a local guide. I think it was easier, but then I was wearing my Makalus... We backpacked about 2 hours into a wonderful, albeit rainy, campsite under the South Face. A must do.

**Teakettle (13,819) Regular route** -- A fun climb with a sting in the tail just east of Sneffels. One, maybe two, technical pitches right at the top, depending on snow. It's climbed from Yankee Boy Basin. I did with Susan years ago. Just a good day out...

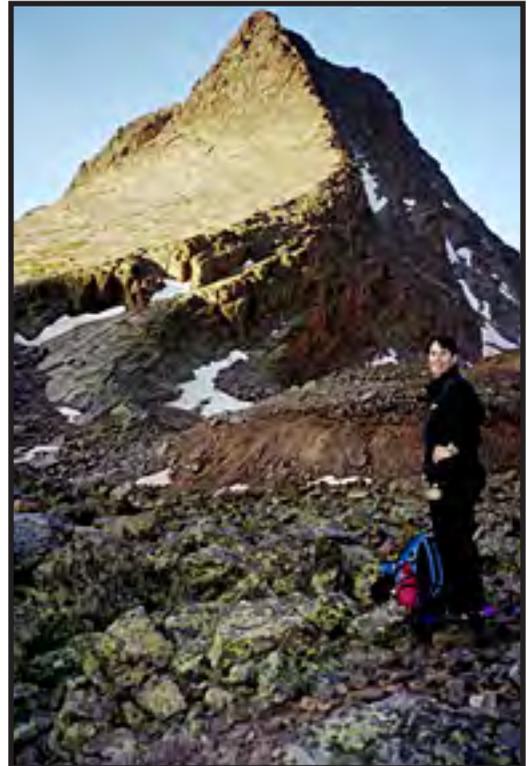
North Face Couloir on Gilpin (13,694) -- rock and ice. You will NOT find this in any guidebook, but it is Clay Patton's favorite climb. I did with Susan and Mark Hubble several years back. It is total commitment. Simply no "pro." Just stacks of loose rock. You climb up and out. Mid-5th class, but a nice 18 inch ice ribbon. Good candidate for a "solo" climb so you don't catch any flying fustilages, and maybe safest that way. Belays are crap anyway. Take two tools.

**North Face of North Twilight Peak (13,075).** It's the massive mountain viewed from the Durango Ski Mountain. Climb from the beautiful Andrews Lake parking lot. Backpack into the base. Lots of easy to mid-5th class rock lines on the expansive North Face. Maja Kotarska and I did most of the Directissima, but in very high avalanche hazard. Wait until the snow goes...but what a beautiful line and mountain. To heck with taller ones when you can do this...

**Vestal (13,864), Wham Ridge, and Arrow Peak (13,803), North Ridge** -- A long backpack into Vestal Basin from the narrow gauge train between Durango and Silverton. The Wham Ridge is a classic 5.5 or so, depending on line, and the long, long, North Ridge of Arrow is a Covington classic going at 5.7. Susan and I ran up both on back to back days. Almost a perfect long weekend from Phoenix heat.

So, when do you leave?

amcaz.org 12



Wham Ridge - Vestal

# El Capitan Canyon - Near Globe, AZ

El Capitan canyon is a pretty little canyon that is about a 1/2 day excursion in the Winter when you want to stay relatively dry. The technical slot canyon requires three rappels to descend (although you could set up 4-5) and is fairly easy by technical canyoneering standards. The trips is approximately 3 miles and if you hit it in the morning when the light is right and the slot glows a beautiful gold color. Keep an eye out for bees, they have been known to be a problem during certain times of the year.

I teamed up with Jacob Hancock for my first canyon co-lead and a handful of skilled and trusting friends. Canyoneers included Jacob Hancock, Susan Harnage, Eric Evans, Cheryl Beaver, Tracy Fleming, Tom Bently and Silvy Nasser.

**TO TRAILHEAD:** Take US-60 East out of Mesa to Globe. Continue on Hwy 70 out of Globe then turn right on Hwy 77 toward Winkleman. Continue on Hwy 77 for 15.4 miles and park on the left just before intersecting the run-away truck ramp.

Susan Harnage



# Outing Leaders

Requirements for becoming a leader: take the Basic, Anchors and Lead classes (or equivalents), be a member for at least one year, complete a basic first aid and CPR class (8 hours or more), and be approved for leadership by at least five current leaders through formal application process and by the Board of Directors. Contact Nancy Birdwell at (602) 770-8326.

## Outing Leader

## Contact Info

Eric Evans .....	602-218-3060 .....	gae100@yahoo.com
Bill Fallon .....	602-996-9790 .....	bill.fallon@cox.net
Erik Filsinger .....		smorefil@aol.com
Jason Garvin.....	480-734-6801 .....	beach_bum43@hotmail.com
John Keedy.....	623-412-1452 .....	jwkeedy@cox.net
Mike Knarzer .....	602-751-1701 .....	thrashndangle@gmail.com
David McClintic.....	602-885-5194 .....	david.mcclintic@cox.net
Bruce McHenry.....	602-952-1379	
Monica Miller .....	623-362-0456	
Rogil Schroeter .....	623-512-8465 .....	rogil@cox.net
Frank Vers .....	480-947-9435 .....	climbrox@gmail.com
Justin York.....	480-229-8660	

# Calendar of Events - Outings/Schools/Events

**May 28-31 - Alpine Climb Weekend. Sign-Up through Meet-Up web site.**

*Footnotes: Car-pooling is optional on all outings and is not part of the outing. The outing begins at the trailhead designated by the Outing Leader and ends at the same place. Each participant should bring a First Aid kit. If you leave the outing, with or without the leader's permission, you are considered to be on your own until you rejoin the group. Each participant will be required to sign an AMC Activity Release Form at the beginning of the outing. Participation in AMC outings requires club membership. Outings vary in degree of danger. When you participate in an outing you should be both physically and mentally prepared and equipped with the appropriate gear. You should always be aware of the risks involved in outdoor activities and conduct yourselves accordingly. The Outing Leader is not responsible for your safety; you are. Please contact the Outing Leader before going on an outing, discussing your capabilities with the Outing Leader. You must be over 18 years of age to participate, or must be accompanied by a parent or responsible adult, and obtain prior consent from the Outing Leader. Those accompanying minors are responsible for the minor's safety.*

## **Billboard—Other Scheduled Events**

*Outings listed in this section are not AMC sanctioned outings. Any AMC member can list an event he or she is planning and which is open to other AMC members. The member does not have to be an approved AMC Outing Leader. If you wish to participate you should be physically and mentally prepared with the appropriate gear and should contact the member planning the outing. You are responsible for your own safety, not the person leading the outing. You should always be aware of the risks involved in outdoor activities and conduct yourself accordingly.*

**Mondays**      **Ape Index Gym Climbing - AMC Members \$10 admission with ID card.**  
**Rogil Schroeter (623) 512-8465**

**Wednesdays**      **North Mountain hikes after work. Rogil Schroeter (623) 512-8465**

# May 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 Sunrise: 0537 Sunset: 1913 M-set: 2055	5	6	7
8	9 Board Mtg	10	11 Sunrise: 0531 Sunset: 1919 M-set: 0124	12	13	14
15	16 Board Mtg	17 Anchors	18 Sunrise: 0526 Sunset: 1924 M-rise: 2109	19	20	21
22 Anchors	23 Member Meeting	24	25 Sunrise: 0522 Sunset: 1929 M-rise: 0105	26	27	28
29	30 Member Meeting	31				

NOTE: Celestial events occur about 10 minutes earlier on Arizona's eastern border; 10 later on its western edge.

# May Member Meeting Program

Don't Miss this Exciting Program!

## **Canyoneering in the Grand Canyon: Backpacks, Ropes, Wetsuits and Rafts**

Monday, May 23rd, 7:00 PM

Granite Reef Senior Center

1700 N. Granite Reef Rd.

Scottsdale, 85257

Both Todd Martin and Aaron Locander will be presenting a slideshow on technical canyoneering in the Grand Canyon.

Todd Martin will start with a presentation on what it takes to do first descents in the Grand Canyon. He will cover everything from preparing and planning a rugged back-country trip, to how the use of packrafting down the Colorado River in a 2 pound boat opens up a new world of exploration possibilities. Todd will also give everybody a preview of his latest book dedicated to Canyoneering in the Grand Canyon which will include 117 canyons and is due out this spring.

Aaron Locander will share his experience of doing a 30 day raft trip from Lee's Ferry to Pearce Ferry in February of 2011 with the primary purpose of descending some of the canyons that Todd first found. It was no ordinary raft trip with freezing temperatures, ice cold potholes in winter, and 4 am wakeup calls all in the name of adventure. Aaron also paddled his one man Alpacka packraft for over 210 miles through some of the biggest rapids that the Colorado River has to offer and has the video to prove it.

Come for the pictures, come for the video, but above all come to hear about how a few people have been pushing the sport of technical canyoneering in one of the worlds most recognized places and see what incredible places they found.

If you have questions about the program or the location, contact Kim McClintic @ (480) 213-2629 or [canyonkim@gmail.com](mailto:canyonkim@gmail.com)

Join us at Duke's Sports Bar after the program. 7607 E. McDowell Rd

# June Member Meeting Program

Mark Your Calendars!

When: Monday, June 27th at 7:00 PM

Where: PRG (Phoenix Rock Gym)

1353 E. University Dr. Tempe, AZ 85281

## THE ANNUAL AMC GEAR SWAP AND CLIMB

Buy, sell, trade, climb!!!

Backpacks, climbing gear, tents, camping stuff.

Don't miss it!!!

Stay and climb.





**Arizona Mountaineering Club  
4340 E. Indian School. Ste.21-164  
Phoenix, AZ. 85018**